

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A communication system that provides backup wireless
5 communication services, comprising:

10 a plurality of communication devices that include at least one first communication device subscribed to a first class of service and at least one second communication device subscribed to a second class of service;

15 a main system component that normally serves all of the plurality of the communication devices; and

15 a backup system component for the main system component that serves the at least one first and the at least one second communication devices based on a class of service associated with a communication device, when the main system component goes out of service.

2. The communication system of claim 1, wherein communication service to the at least one communication device subscribed to the second class of service is terminated, when the main system component goes out of service.

20 3. The communication system of claim 1, wherein the first class of service has a higher service priority relative to the second class of service.

4. The communication system of claim 3, wherein the first class of service corresponds to an emergency service and the second class of service corresponds to a non-emergency service.

5. The communication system of claim 1, wherein the main system component is a main base station and the backup system component is a backup base station.

6. The communication system of claim 1, wherein the backup system component has a lower capacity than the main system component.

7. The communication system of claim 1, wherein the backup system has a higher reliability than the main system component.

8. The communication system of claim 1, wherein information about the class of service for each communication device is stored in the system.

9. The communication system of claim 1, wherein the communication device informs the system relative to a subscribed class of service.

15 10. A method for providing wireless communication services to a plurality of communication devices, wherein the plurality of communication devices include at least one first communication device subscribed to a first class of service and at least one second communication device subscribed to a second class of service, comprising:

normally serving all of the plurality of the communication devices using a main system component; and

serving some but not all of the plurality of communication devices using a backup system component in accordance with a class of service associated with a communication device, when the main system component goes out of service.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the backup system component only serves the at least one first communication device subscribed to the first class of service, when the main system component goes out of service.

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12. The method of claim 11, wherein communication service to the at least one communication device subscribed to the second class of service is terminated, when the main system component goes out of service.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the first class of service has a higher service priority relative to the second class of service

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14. The method of claim 10, wherein the main system component is a main base station and the back of system component is a backup base station.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein the backup system component has a lower capacity than the main system component.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein the backup system has a higher reliability than the main system component.